IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

INTERNATIONAL PAINTERS AND ALLIED)
TRADES INDUSTRY PENSION FUND)
1750 New York Avenue, N.W.)
Washington, DC 20006-5387)
)
Plaintiff,) CIVIL ACTION NO.
v.)
JMC GLASS & MIRROR, INC., a dissolved)
Illinois corporation,	,
•)
a/k/a JMC Glass & Mirror Inc.	·)
a/k/a JMC Glass & Mirror)
MAX CHEATHAM, individually and d/b/a)
JMC Glass & Mirror, Inc.)
a/k/a JMC Glass & Mirror Inc.)
a/k/a JMC Glass & Mirror)
JOAN CHEATHAM, individually and d/b/a)
JMC Glass & Mirror, Inc.)
a/k/a JMC Glass & Mirror Inc.)
a/k/a JMC Glass & Mirror)
302 S. Lee Street)
Bloomington, IL 61701)
D-61)
Defendants.)

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, by undersigned counsel, complains about Defendants as follows:

JURISDICTION

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action under 29 U.S.C. §§185(a), 1132 and 1145.
- 2. A copy of this Complaint is being served on the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Treasury of the United States by certified mail in accordance with 29 U.S.C. §1132(h).

VENUE

3. Venue lies in the District of Columbia under 29 U.S.C. §§185(a) or 1132(e)(2).

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff, International Painters and Allied Trades Industry Pension Fund ("Fund" or "Pension Fund"), is a trust fund established under 29 U.S.C. §186(c)(5) and "multiemployer plan" and "employee benefit [pension] plan" within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §1002(37), (2) and (3). The Fund maintains its principal place of business and is administered from an office located at the address in the caption of this Complaint.
- 5. Defendant JMC Glass & Mirror, Inc. a/k/a JMC Glass & Mirror Inc. a/k/a JMC Glass & Mirror ("Company") is a dissolved Illinois corporation that is being operated as a partnership or proprietorship and an employer in an industry affecting commerce within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §§152(2), (6) and (7), 1002(5), (11) and (12) with a business office at the address listed in the caption.
- 6. Defendants Max Cheatham ("M. Cheatham") and Joan Cheatham ("J. Cheatham" and jointly with M. Cheatham, "Individual Defendants" and together with Company, "Defendants") are the partners and proprietors, jointly, of the Company, an unincorporated business, and, as such, they are the employer within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §§152(2), (6) and (7), 1002(5), (11) and (12). Individual Defendants are jointly and severally liable for the debts owed to the Fund by the Company. Individual Defendants maintain their residence or office at the address listed in the caption.

COMMON FACTS

7. At all times relevant to this action, the Defendants were party to or agreed to abide

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by the terms and conditions of a collective bargaining agreement(s) (singly or jointly, "Labor Contracts") with one or more local labor unions or district councils affiliated with the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, AFL-CIO, CLC (the locals, district councils and International being referred to jointly as "Union").

- 8. Defendants also signed or agreed to abide by the terms of the agreement and declaration of trust of the Fund ("Trust Agreement") made between certain employers and employee representatives in an industry(ies) affecting interstate commerce to promote stable and peaceful labor relations and the Pension Fund's rules and regulations as set forth in the International Painters and Allied Trades Industry Pension Plan ("Plan"). A true and correct copy of the Trust Agreement is attached as Exhibit 1 and incorporated by reference. True and correct copies of §§10.07, 10.08, 10.11, and 10.12 of the Plan are attached as Exhibit 2 and incorporated by reference.
 - 9. Under the Labor Contracts, Trust Agreement and Plan, Defendants agreed:
- (a) To make full and timely payment on a monthly basis to the Fund, as required by the Labor Contracts, Trust Agreement and Plan. Ex. 1, pp.15-16 (Art.VI, §2); Ex. 2, §10.07.
- (b) To file monthly remittance reports with the Fund detailing all employees or work for which contributions were required under the Labor Contract. Ex. 1, p.16 (Art.VI, §§3,5).
- (c) To produce, upon request by the Fund, all books and records deemed necessary to conduct an audit of Defendants' records concerning their obligations to the Fund and to pay the cost of the audit if found to be delinquent or in violation of the Plan. Ex. 1, pp.16-

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17 (Art.VI, §6).

- (d) To pay liquidated damages, late charges, interest, audit costs, and all costs of litigation, including attorneys' fees, expended by the Fund to collect any amounts due as a consequence of Defendants' failure to comply with their contractual and statutory obligations described in Subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c). Ex. 1, p. 16-17 (Art.VI, §§4,6); Ex. 2, §§10.07, 10.12.
- 10. Defendants also agreed to make full and timely payments on a monthly basis to the Political Action Together – Legislative and Educational Committee ("PATLEC"), Political Action Together - Political Committee ("PATPC"), International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Joint Apprenticeship and Training Fund ("Apprenticeship Fund") and The Painters and Allied Trades Labor Management Cooperation Initiative ("LMCI") (the LMCI, PATLEC, PATPC and Apprenticeship Fund are jointly referred to as "Ancillary Funds") as required by the Labor Contracts and Trust Agreements of the Ancillary Funds.
- The Pension Fund is the authorized collection agent for the Ancillary Funds. The 11. Pension Fund and Ancillary Funds are, hereinafter, jointly referred to as "Funds".

COUNT I - CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER CONTRACT - SUM CERTAIN PENSION FUND

v.

DEFENDANTS

- 12. The allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 11 are incorporated by reference as if fully restated.
 - 13. Based on an audit performed October 27, 2004, Defendants have failed to pay to

the Funds amounts due under the Labor Contracts, Trust Agreements and Plan for the period January 1, 2002 through June 30, 2004 in at least the sum of \$7,692.45.

14. Despite request(s) for payment, Defendants have not paid the Funds as required by the Labor Contracts, Trust Agreements, the Plan and applicable law.

WHEREFORE, the Pension Fund, for itself and on behalf of the Ancillary Funds, asks that the Court:

- Enter judgment against all Defendants, jointly and severally, in favor of the (1) Pension Fund, for itself and on behalf of the Ancillary Funds, for at least the sum of \$7,692.45 plus any additional amounts revealed by an audit of Defendants' records or which may become due during the pendency of this lawsuit together with late charges, liquidated damages, interest and costs, including the cost of any audit, and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in this action or the collection or enforcement of any judgment, as provided in the Labor Contracts, Trust Agreements and Plan.
- Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as may be just, necessary or (2) appropriate.

COUNT II - CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER ERISA - SUM CERTAIN PENSION FUND

v.

DEFENDANTS

- 15. The allegations of Paragraph 1 through 11 are incorporated by reference as if fully restated.
 - Based on an audit performed October 27, 2004, Defendants have failed to pay to 16.

the Funds amounts due under the Labor Contracts, Trust Agreements and Plan for the period January 1, 2002 through June 30, 2004 in at least the sum of \$7,692.45 in violation of 29 U.S.C. \$1145.

- 17. Defendants have failed to make the payments despite the Funds' repeated requests for payment.
- 18. The Funds have been damaged by the Defendants' violation of 29 U.S.C. §1145.

 WHEREFORE, the Pension Fund, for itself and on behalf of the Ancillary Funds, asks
 that the Court:
- (1) Enter judgment against all Defendants, jointly and severally, in favor of the Pension Fund, for itself and on behalf of the Ancillary Funds, for at least the amount of \$7,692.45 plus any additional amounts revealed by an audit of Defendants' records or which may become due during the pendency of this lawsuit together with late charges, interest at the rate(s) prescribed by 26 U.S.C. §6621 from the due date for payment until the date of actual payment, liquidated damages equal to the greater of the interest on the unpaid contributions or liquidated damages provided by the documents governing the Funds or statute, the cost of any audit and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action or the collection or enforcement of any judgment all as provided under the Trust Agreements, Plan, and 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2).
- (2) Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as may be just, necessary or appropriate.

COUNT III - AUDIT

PENSION FUND

v.

DEFENDANTS

- 19. The allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 11 are incorporated by reference as if fully restated.
- 20. The amount of contributions Defendants are required to pay to the Funds is based upon hours worked and paid to employees performing work covered by the Labor Contracts.
- 21. The Funds are without sufficient information or knowledge to plead the precise nature, extent and amount of the Defendants' delinquency because the books, records and information necessary to determine this liability are in the exclusive possession, custody and control or knowledge of Defendants.
- 22. Computation of the precise amount of an employer's delinquency is normally achieved by an audit of the employer's books and records and/or calculated from contractually-required remittance reports submitted by the employer.
- 23. On October 27, 2004, the Funds completed an audit of Defendants' payroll books and related records covering the period January 2002 through June 2004. This audit revealed a consistent pattern of underpayment of contributions and underreporting or contribution amounts owed by Company.
- 24. No audit has been performed for the period July 2004 through the present. However, based on the previous audit, there is a strong likelihood that the pattern of underpayment and underreporting has continued.

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- 25. The Defendants are required by the Labor Contracts, Trust Agreements and applicable law to permit the Funds to audit their records, to cooperate in determining the contributions due the Funds and to pay the cost of the audit if found to be delinquent.
- 26. The Funds have no adequate remedy at law for the calculation of any damages suffered as a result of the breach requires an audit.
 - 27. All conditions precedent to equitable relief have been satisfied.

WHEREFORE, the Pension Fund, for itself and on behalf of the Ancillary Funds, asks that the Court:

- (1) Enjoin the all Defendants, their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys and all others in active concert or participation with them to permit an audit of all records under the actual or constructive control of Defendants and, in the absence of records, to cooperate in alternative methods for the determination of work for which contributions are due.
- Order Defendants to pay for an audit by a Certified Public Accountant chosen by (2) the Pension Fund.
- Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as may be just, necessary or (3) appropriate.

COUNT IV - CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER CONTRACT AFTER AUDIT PENSION FUND

v.

DEFENDANTS

The allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 11 and 20 through 27 are incorporated by 28. reference as if fully restated.

- On information and belief, Defendants have failed to make contributions to the 29. Funds as required by their Labor Contracts, the Trust Agreements and Plan in a period not barred by any applicable statute of limitations or similar bar.
- 30. On information and belief, the Funds have been damaged by the failure of Defendants to make contributions as required by their Labor Contracts, the Trust Agreements, Plan and applicable law.

WHEREFORE, the Pension Fund, for itself and on behalf of the Ancillary Funds, asks that the Court:

- After an audit, enter judgment against all Defendants, jointly and severally, and in (1) favor of the Fund, for itself and on behalf of the Ancillary Funds, for the amount of contributions found due and owing by an audit together with late charges, liquidated damages, interest and costs, including the cost of the audit, and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in this action or the collection and enforcement of any judgment, as provided in the Labor Contracts, Trust Agreements, Plan and applicable law.
- (2) Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as may be just, necessary or appropriate.

COUNT V - CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER ERISA AFTER AUDIT PENSION FUND

v.

DEFENDANTS

The allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 11 and 20 through 27 are incorporated by 31. reference as if fully restated.

- On information and belief, the Defendants have failed to make contributions to 32. the Funds in violation of 29 U.S.C. §1145 in a period not barred by an applicable statute of limitations or similar bar.
- The Funds are without sufficient information or knowledge to plead the precise 33. nature, extent and amount of Defendants' delinquency since the books, records and information necessary to determine this liability are in the possession, custody, control or knowledge of Defendants.
- On information and belief, the Funds have been damaged by Defendants' 34. violation of 29 U.S.C. §1145.

WHEREFORE, the Pension Fund, for itself and on behalf of the Ancillary Funds, asks that the Court:

- After an audit, enter judgment against all Defendants, jointly and severally, and in (1) favor of the Pension Fund, for itself and on behalf of the Ancillary Funds, for the contributions found due and owing by the audit, together with late charges, interest at the rate(s) prescribed by 26 U.S.C. §6621 from the due date for payment until the date of actual payment, liquidated damages equal to the greater of the interest on the unpaid contributions or liquidated damages provided by the plan document(s) or statute(s), the cost of the audit, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action and in connection with any proceedings to enforce or collect any judgment all as provided under the Trust Agreements, Plan and 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2).
- Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as may be just, necessary or (2) appropriate.

COUNT VI - INJUNCTION

PENSION FUND

v.

DEFENDANTS

- The allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 34 are incorporated by reference as if 35. fully restated.
- 36. A money judgment or other remedy available at law is inadequate because Defendants have shown their disregard of their contractual and legal obligations by a consistent pattern of delinquencies or late payment of contributions.
- Unless ordered to do otherwise by this Court, Defendants will continue to refuse 37. to submit remittance reports and pay the contributions presently due and owing or which become due and owing in the future, and the Funds and their participants will be irreparably damaged.
- 38. All other conditions precedent to equitable relief have been satisfied. WHEREFORE, the Pension Fund, for itself and on behalf of the Ancillary Funds, asks that the Court:
- (1) Permanently restrain and enjoin Defendants, their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys and all others in active concert or participation with them from continuing to violate the terms of the current collective bargaining agreement(s) between Defendants and the Union (including its affiliated locals and district councils) and from violating such other collective bargaining agreements as may from time to time be entered by the said parties providing for the timely filing of remittance reports with complete, accurate and proper information and timely payment of contributions to the Funds for so long as Defendants are

contractually-required to do so.

(2) Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as may be just, necessary or appropriate.

Document 1

Respectfully submitted,

JENNINGS SIGMOND, P.C.

BY:

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